

**Hello!** And welcome to my archived article originally published in the [Southern Nevada Country Register](#) ...

## **All Good Things Come To An End . . . But, Really -- Just How Do You Get On With Doing A Move?**



In the **2002 May, June, and July** issue of our hometown [Country Register](#), we announced to the gentle readers that on June 30, 2002 the lease on our shop at its 19-year Flamingo and Eastern location would end in June. With the final moving sale, the packing, and re-set-up in our new location ahead of us (we hoped!), we approached the promise of a scorching summer with certain anxiety – because we hadn't found a new location for our store yet!

We sent our article and ad to the publisher of our favorite newspaper with this letter --

*Le Mélange* GIFTS & COLLECTIBLES  
4161 South Eastern Avenue, Suite A-12  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89191

(702) 731-5730

April 23, 2002

Dear Jeff,

The sands of time are running out for our shop at Flamingo and Eastern. Our lease expires this June and we have decided not to renew it. This was our shop's fourth location and, although we have been here for over 18 years, it is time now to move on.

To lighten our packing and moving load (now, you've seen our store -- can you imagine packing it up?), we are having a big stock reduction sale of the unpacked items from now until the middle of June. Needless to say, it is hectic around here!

I hope that I will be in a new store by the time your next deadline rolls around, so we can announce our new digs in your paper first! I plan to keep my phone number alive so if you don't have our address, at least you can call.

Thanks,

**Georgia**

In the [Country Register](#)'s Marketplace section, we thanked all of our loyal "Flamingo at Eastern" customers:

[Le Mélange Gifts & Collectibles](#) says "Thanks!" to all of our faithful customers and precious friends made during our nineteen-year stay in the Sugarhouse Shopping Center. We were privileged to serve you there and we hope that our new location will be even more convenient to you. Watch the [Country Register](#) for our new location announcement!

We shared these up-coming calendar items as well...

[Le Mélange Gifts & Collectibles](#) wishes all of our customers and friends a pleasant spring and a lovely summer! Please mark these events on your calendar:

- ***Mother's Day is Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup>*** Honor you Mom with a framed picture of you or you and your kids! Now smile! . . . and sit up straight.
- ***Father's Day is Sunday, June 16<sup>th</sup>*** This year, get him a beer stein. There, now wasn't that easy? Finally, a gift he can use! (We have ties, too, for the faint of heart.)
- ***May and June are graduation months.*** Don't forget the grads as they zip off to new beginnings. Help them go with just the right farewell gift.
- ***They still have birthdays in summer!*** Better shop ahead with us – just to be safe.
- ***June is for Brides, and Grooms, and Wedding Parties.*** In our store, you can find gifts from traditional to the 'interesting' – just right for the special couple.

Well – did you get in to our old location and help us lighten our load? Many did and we all shared hugs and fond memories of the many years we had spent in the center of the valley.

\*\*\* Article Follows \*\*\*

# **All Good Things Come To An End . . . But, Really -- Just How Do You Get On With Doing A Move?**

*Georgia Ritter, Owner of [Le Mélange Gifts & Collectibles](#)*

Well the time has come, the moving van is almost here. Now what to do with all of this stuff?

I'm sure that you have felt the excitement and anticipation of new surroundings fade pretty fast as you contemplate the task of leaving the old place. Many of our customers and friends have faced these feelings in the last few years. Moving to the new job (and new town), downsizing the house after the nest has emptied, finally getting the bigger place (about one kid later than you'd have liked). The fact is, most of us move a time or two in this most mobile of societies. Now, the house is one thing. We did that after the county decided to build I-215 through our living room. But, oh my! Moving my shop is an experience of a very different sort!

Our lease expires this June and we have decided not to renew it. We've moved the shop before -- to bigger, to better, and across the country to Las Vegas. The next will be our shop's fifth location in 24 years. And since we have been here for over 18 of those years, this move will be a bit more challenging than the ones before.

First, there are the friends we have made here and the comfort we have found in knowing that we'd see each other from time to time, as the paths of our lives drew us back together in the shop. We hope that our separation this time will be short and that we will have even more fun together in our new surroundings when we land later this year.

Next, there are the delivery people whose faithful performance of their duties made each day feel like Christmas as they brought boxes, letters, and parcels with smiles and bright comments on each visit. We will surly miss them as we leave their routes this summer.

And last there is 'where to go next?' Well we don't know yet, but we're working on that one really hard (the living room will only hold so much -- and for only so long!)

As we did with the Christmas decorations in our home, we have been packing up the back stock as carefully as we can. Moving creates a different set of circumstances than does storage, so our packing strategy and methods are different. Protection during handling becomes the priority over long term protection from the damage caused by the wrapping material itself that usually holds our attention after Christmas.

Paper covering, original boxes, and popcorn, popcorn, popcorn as we fill the empty spaces to keep the fragile things from rattling against themselves and their cartons. We've tried to get boxes of approximately the same size. We'll be lifting a lot of them, so big and ungainly is definitely out. Consistent shapes stack better. Plain sides are easier to mark and the marks are easier to read. (Get at least three sides to make identification easy from any angle.)

Many friends have been helpful with boxes and other material – even with help in boxing and inventory. Friends always seem to make the work light and time go quickly.

Our customers have been having a field day too! The upset has revealed much that had been overlooked before and so these are new. Stepping over a busy elf immersed in counting a pile of stock has added that spice of adventure to the search, as well. I suppose our moving sale discounts make this a good time for bargains, too.

So it comes down to getting ready to pack . . . by getting ready to first – to unpack. Marking and inventory are the key – especially if you don't exactly know where the contents are supposed to go when you get there.

So as we pack, how can we help you? Gift occasions coming up? You bet.

Late spring and summer keep us all busy with birthdays, and with the special occasions – graduations, weddings, move outs and move ins. Don't forget Mom and Dad in May and June, either! Each occasion has its own way to celebrate. Now is a great time to get ahead for these occasions with fine gifts from our shop – great values at great prices!

I still find that I spend a lot of time helping my customers select unique gifts that convey the personal sense of human value and care that they have for their gifts' recipients. We help them wrap and present their gifts in a way that shows the importance they place on these relationships, as well.

I recommend that you present your gift in person (if you can), of course during the formal times weddings and graduations, and even in the casual times. House warmings, farewell parties, even pool parties are just the place for the human contact that builds closeness. Accompany your gift with a warm hug and a word of affection, joy, and encouragement. Re-connecting in a physical way is both reassuring and important – for you and your special person. The hug is a moment of wonderful feeling. The thoughtful gift makes the feeling last and then, be recalled -- over and over.

If you can't be there, find exactly the right card – the one that conveys your care and reflects the importance you place on the relationship made distant by circumstances. The right card and the right personal sentiment conveys the hug -- not as physically, but as meaningfully.

Well – if you don't come in soon . . . we will see you in the next place – where ever that may be!

The editor of the [Country Register](#) was kind enough to include this note:

*Ed. Note: Georgia has owned her delightful shop for over 23 years. Now, we empathize with her as she packs up the store and moves to a new location. For years, she has helped shoppers find 'just the right thing' for those difficult persons on the gift list or that hard to find collectible or home decoration. While there is still time, visit her shop, [Le Mélange Gifts & Collectibles](#), Suites A-11 & 12 in the **Sugarhouse Shopping Center** at Eastern at Flamingo in Las Vegas.*

*Then watch (as we will) our paper for her announcement of a Grand Re-Opening in a new location!*

Well ... we actually did find a new location – and we actually got all of our stuff here!

... thanks to many trips -- many borrowed trucks – and many friends!

Thank you for reading through these memories with me! Stop in and reminisce in our shop’s “new” location (well, “new” since 2002!). We are at 120 Horizon Drive in Henderson – just one block east of the Horizon Drive exit off US 93/95.

## **Georgia**

Georgia Ritter, Owner

[Le Mélange Gifts & Collectibles](#)

(702) LOV-XMAS – or (800) 731-5730

email me at: [Georgia@AGRitter.com](mailto:Georgia@AGRitter.com)

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